

Fill in this information to identify your case:

United States Bankruptcy Court for the:

Northern District of Illinois

Case number (If known): _____ Chapter you are filing under:

- ☐ Chapter 7
☐ Chapter 11
☐ Chapter 12
☒ Chapter 13

☐ Check if this is an amended filing

Official Form 101

Voluntary Petition for Individuals Filing for Bankruptcy

12/22

The bankruptcy forms use *you* and *Debtor 1* to refer to a debtor filing alone. A married couple may file a bankruptcy case together—called a *joint* case—and in joint cases, these forms use *you* to ask for information from both debtors. For example, if a form asks, “Do you own a car,” the answer would be *yes* if either debtor owns a car. When information is needed about the spouses separately, the form uses *Debtor 1* and *Debtor 2* to distinguish between them. In joint cases, one of the spouses must report information as *Debtor 1* and the other as *Debtor 2*. The same person must be *Debtor 1* in all of the forms.

Be as complete and accurate as possible. If two married people are filing together, both are equally responsible for supplying correct information. If more space is needed, attach a separate sheet to this form. On the top of any additional pages, write your name and case number (if known). Answer every question.

Part 1: Identify Yourself

About Debtor 1:

About Debtor 2 (Spouse Only in a Joint Case):

1. Your full name

Write the name that is on your government-issued picture identification (for example, your driver's license or passport).

Bring your picture identification to your meeting with the trustee.

Maria

First name

Dejesus

Middle name

Lopez

Last name

Suffix (Sr., Jr, II, III)

First name

Middle name

Last name

Suffix (Sr., Jr, II, III)

2. All other names you have used in the last 8 years

Include your married or maiden names and any assumed, trade names and *doing business as* names.

Do NOT list the name of any separate legal entity such as a corporation, partnership, or LLC that is not filing this petition.

First name

Middle name

Last name

Business name (if applicable)

Business name (if applicable)

First name

Middle name

Last name

Business name (if applicable)

Business name (if applicable)

3. Only the last 4 digits of your Social Security number or federal Individual Taxpayer Identification number (ITIN)

xxx - xx - **8 3 6 1**

OR

9xx - xx - _____

xxx - xx - _____

OR

9xx - xx - _____

Debtor 1

Maria

Dejesus

Lopez

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name

Case number (if known) _____

About Debtor 1:

About Debtor 2 (Spouse Only in a Joint Case):

4. Your Employer Identification Number (EIN), if any.

____ - ____ - ____
EIN

____ - ____ - ____
EIN

____ - ____ - ____
EIN

____ - ____ - ____
EIN

5. Where you live

4251 N Whipple St

Number Street

Chicago, IL 60618

City State ZIP Code

Cook

County

If your mailing address is different from the one above, fill it in here. Note that the court will send any notices to you at this mailing address.

Number Street

P.O. Box

City State ZIP Code

If Debtor 2 lives at a different address:

Number Street

City State ZIP Code

County

If Debtor 2's mailing address is different from yours, fill it in here. Note that the court will send any notices to you at this mailing address.

Number Street

P.O. Box

City State ZIP Code

6. Why you are choosing this district to file for bankruptcy

Check one:

☒ Over the last 180 days before filing this petition, I have lived in this district longer than in any other district.

☐ I have another reason. Explain.
(See 28 U.S.C. § 1408)

Check one:

☐ Over the last 180 days before filing this petition, I have lived in this district longer than in any other district.

☐ I have another reason. Explain.
(See 28 U.S.C. § 1408)

Debtor 1 **Maria** **Dejesus** **Lopez** Case number (if known) _____
 First Name Middle Name Last Name

Part 2: Tell the Court About Your Bankruptcy Case

7. The chapter of the Bankruptcy Code you are choosing to file under *Check one.* (For a brief description of each, see *Notice Required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b) for Individuals Filing for Bankruptcy* (Form 2010)). Also, go to the top of page 1 and check the appropriate box.

- ☐ Chapter 7
☐ Chapter 11
☐ Chapter 12
☒ Chapter 13

8. How you will pay the fee

- ☐ **I will pay the entire fee when I file my petition.** Please check with the clerk's office in your local court for more details about how you may pay. Typically, if you are paying the fee yourself, you may pay with cash, cashier's check, or money order. If your attorney is submitting your payment on your behalf, your attorney may pay with a credit card or check with a pre-printed address.
- ☒ **I need to pay the fee in installments.** If you choose this option, sign and attach the *Application for Individuals to Pay The Filing Fee in Installments* (Official Form 103A).
- ☐ **I request that my fee be waived** (You may request this option only if you are filing for Chapter 7. By law, a judge may, but is not required to, waive your fee, and may do so only if your income is less than 150% of the official poverty line that applies to your family size and you are unable to pay the fee in installments). If you choose this option, you must fill out the *Application to Have the Chapter 7 Filing Fee Waived* (Official Form 103B) and file it with your petition.

9. Have you filed for bankruptcy within the last 8 years?

- ☒ No.
- ☐ Yes. District _____ When _____ Case number _____
 MM / DD / YYYY
- District _____ When _____ Case number _____
 MM / DD / YYYY
- District _____ When _____ Case number _____
 MM / DD / YYYY

10. Are any bankruptcy cases pending or being filed by a spouse who is not filing this case with you, or by a business partner, or by an affiliate?

- ☒ No.
- ☐ Yes. Debtor _____ Relationship to you _____
 District _____ When _____ Case number, if known _____
 MM / DD / YYYY
- Debtor _____ Relationship to you _____
 District _____ When _____ Case number, if known _____
 MM / DD / YYYY

11. Do you rent your residence?

- ☒ No. Go to line 12.
- ☐ Yes. Has your landlord obtained an eviction judgment against you?
- ☐ No. Go to line 12.
- ☐ Yes. Fill out *Initial Statement About an Eviction Judgment Against You* (Form 101A) and file it as part of this bankruptcy petition.

Debtor 1 Maria Dejesus Lopez Case number (if known) _____
 First Name Middle Name Last Name

Part 3: Report About Any Businesses You Own as a Sole Proprietor

12. Are you a sole proprietor of any full- or part-time business?

- ☒ No. Go to Part 4.
☐ Yes. Name and location of business

A sole proprietorship is a business you operate as an individual, and is not a separate legal entity such as a corporation, partnership, or LLC.

If you have more than one sole proprietorship, use a separate sheet and attach it to this petition.

 Name of business, if any

 Number Street

 City State ZIP Code

Check the appropriate box to describe your business:

- ☐ Health Care Business (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(27A))
☐ Single Asset Real Estate (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51B))
☐ Stockbroker (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(53A))
☐ Commodity Broker (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(6))
☐ None of the above

13. Are you filing under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, and are you a *small business debtor* or a debtor as defined by 11 U.S.C. § 1182(1)?

For a definition of *small business debtor*, see 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D).

If you are filing under Chapter 11, the court must know whether you are a small business debtor or a debtor choosing to proceed under Subchapter V so that it can set appropriate deadlines. If you indicate that you are a small business debtor or you are choosing to proceed under Subchapter V, you must attach your most recent balance sheet, statement of operations, cash-flow statement, and federal income tax return or if any of these documents do not exist, follow the procedure in 11 U.S.C. § 1116(1)(B).

- ☒ No. I am not filing under Chapter 11.
☐ No. I am filing under Chapter 11, but I am NOT a small business debtor according to the definition in the Bankruptcy Code.
☐ Yes. I am filing under Chapter 11, I am a small business debtor according to the definition in the Bankruptcy Code, and I do not choose to proceed under Subchapter V of Chapter 11.
☐ Yes. I am filing under Chapter 11, I am a debtor according to the definition in § 1182(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, and I choose to proceed under Subchapter V of Chapter 11.

Debtor 1

Maria

Dejesus

Lopez

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name

Case number (if known) _____

Part 4: Report if You Own or Have Any Hazardous Property or Any Property That Needs Immediate Attention

- 14. Do you own or have any property that poses or is alleged to pose a threat of imminent and identifiable hazard to public health or safety? Or do you own any property that needs immediate attention?**

For example, do you own perishable goods, or livestock that must be fed, or a building that needs urgent repairs?



No.



Yes. What is the hazard?

If immediate attention is needed, why is it needed?

Where is the property?

Number Street

City

State

ZIP Code

Debtor 1

Maria

First Name

Dejesus

Middle Name

Lopez

Last Name

Case number (if known) _____

Part 5: Explain Your Efforts to Receive a Briefing About Credit Counseling

15. Tell the court whether you have received a briefing about credit counseling.

The law requires that you receive a briefing about credit counseling before you file for bankruptcy. You must truthfully check one of the following choices. If you cannot do so, you are not eligible to file.

If you file anyway, the court can dismiss your case, you will lose whatever filing fee you paid, and your creditors can begin collection activities again.

About Debtor 1:

You must check one:

- ☒ **I received a briefing from an approved credit counseling agency within the 180 days before I filed this bankruptcy petition, and I received a certificate of completion.**

Attach a copy of the certificate and the payment plan, if any, that you developed with the agency.

- ☐ **I received a briefing from an approved credit counseling agency within the 180 days before I filed this bankruptcy petition, but I do not have a certificate of completion.**

Within 14 days after you file this bankruptcy petition, you **MUST** file a copy of the certificate and payment plan, if any.

- ☐ **I certify that I asked for credit counseling services from an approved agency, but was unable to obtain those services during the 7 days after I made my request, and exigent circumstances merit a 30-day temporary waiver of the requirement.**

To ask for a 30-day temporary waiver of the requirement, attach a separate sheet explaining what efforts you made to obtain the briefing, why you were unable to obtain it before you filed for bankruptcy, and what exigent circumstances required you to file this case.

Your case may be dismissed if the court is dissatisfied with your reasons for not receiving a briefing before you filed for bankruptcy.

If the court is satisfied with your reasons, you must still receive a briefing within 30 days after you file. You must file a certificate from the approved agency, along with a copy of the payment plan you developed, if any. If you do not do so, your case may be dismissed.

Any extension of the 30-day deadline is granted only for cause and is limited to a maximum of 15 days.

- ☐ **I am not required to receive a briefing about credit counseling because of:**

☐ **Incapacity.** I have a mental illness or a mental deficiency that makes me incapable of realizing or making rational decisions about finances.

☐ **Disability.** My physical disability causes me to be unable to participate in a briefing in person, by phone, or through the internet, even after I reasonably tried to do so.

☐ **Active duty.** I am currently on active military duty in a military combat zone.

If you believe you are not required to receive a briefing about credit counseling, you must file a motion for waiver of credit counseling with the court.

About Debtor 2 (Spouse Only in a Joint Case):

You must check one:

- ☐ **I received a briefing from an approved credit counseling agency within the 180 days before I filed this bankruptcy petition, and I received a certificate of completion.**

Attach a copy of the certificate and the payment plan, if any, that you developed with the agency.

- ☐ **I received a briefing from an approved credit counseling agency within the 180 days before I filed this bankruptcy petition, but I do not have a certificate of completion.**

Within 14 days after you file this bankruptcy petition, you **MUST** file a copy of the certificate and payment plan, if any.

- ☐ **I certify that I asked for credit counseling services from an approved agency, but was unable to obtain those services during the 7 days after I made my request, and exigent circumstances merit a 30-day temporary waiver of the requirement.**

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- ☐ **I am not required to receive a briefing about credit counseling because of:**

☐ **Incapacity.** I have a mental illness or a mental deficiency that makes me incapable of realizing or making rational decisions about finances.

☐ **Disability.** My physical disability causes me to be unable to participate in a briefing in person, by phone, or through the internet, even after I reasonably tried to do so.

☐ **Active duty.** I am currently on active military duty in a military combat zone.

If you believe you are not required to receive a briefing about credit counseling, you must file a motion for waiver of credit counseling with the court.

Debtor 1

Maria

Dejesus

Lopez

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name

Case number (if known) _____

Part 6: Answer These Questions for Reporting Purposes

16. What kind of debts do you have?

16a. Are your debts primarily consumer debts? *Consumer debts* are defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(8) as "incurred by an individual primarily for a personal, family, or household purpose."

- ☐ No. Go to line 16b.
☒ Yes. Go to line 17.

16b. Are your debts primarily business debts? *Business debts* are debts that you incurred to obtain money for a business or investment or through the operation of the business or investment.

- ☐ No. Go to line 16c.
☐ Yes. Go to line 17.

16c. State the type of debts you owe that are not consumer debts or business debts.

17. Are you filing under Chapter 7?

☒ No. I am not filing under Chapter 7. Go to line 18.

☐ Yes. I am filing under Chapter 7. Do you estimate that after any exempt property is excluded and administrative expenses are paid that funds will be available to distribute to unsecured creditors?

- ☐ No
☐ Yes

Do you estimate that after any exempt property is excluded and administrative expenses are paid that funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors?

18. How many creditors do you estimate that you owe?

- ☒ 1-49 ☐ 1,000-5,000 ☐ 25,001-50,000 ☐ 50,000-100,000 ☐ More than 100,000
☐ 50-99 ☐ 5,001-10,000
☐ 100-199 ☐ 10,001-25,000
☐ 200-999

19. How much do you estimate your assets to be worth?

- ☒ \$0-\$50,000 ☐ \$1,000,001-\$10 million ☐ \$500,000,001-\$1 billion
☐ \$50,001-\$100,000 ☐ \$10,000,001-\$50 million ☐ \$1,000,000,001-\$10 billion
☐ \$100,001-\$500,000 ☐ \$50,000,001-\$100 million ☐ \$10,000,000,001-\$50 billion
☐ \$500,001-\$1 million ☐ \$100,000,001-\$500 million ☐ More than \$50 billion

20. How much do you estimate your liabilities to be?

- ☐ \$0-\$50,000 ☐ \$1,000,001-\$10 million ☐ \$500,000,001-\$1 billion
☐ \$50,001-\$100,000 ☐ \$10,000,001-\$50 million ☐ \$1,000,000,001-\$10 billion
☒ \$100,001-\$500,000 ☐ \$50,000,001-\$100 million ☐ \$10,000,000,001-\$50 billion
☐ \$500,001-\$1 million ☐ \$100,000,001-\$500 million ☐ More than \$50 billion

Part 7: Sign Below

For you

I have examined this petition, and I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided is true and correct.

If I have chosen to file under Chapter 7, I am aware that I may proceed, if eligible, under Chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of title 11, United States Code. I understand the relief available under each chapter, and I choose to proceed under Chapter 7.

If no attorney represents me and I did not pay or agree to pay someone who is not an attorney to help me fill out this document, I have obtained and read the notice required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b).

I request relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.

I understand making a false statement, concealing property, or obtaining money or property by fraud in connection with a bankruptcy case can result in fines up to \$250,000, or imprisonment for up to 20 years, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 1341, 1519, and 3571.

X /s/ Maria Dejesus Lopez

Maria Dejesus Lopez, Debtor 1

Executed on 06/08/2024

MM/ DD/ YYYY

Debtor 1

Maria

First Name

Dejesus

Middle Name

Lopez

Last Name

Case number (if known) _____

For your attorney, if you are represented by one

If you are not represented by an attorney, you do not need to file this page.

I, the attorney for the debtor(s) named in this petition, declare that I have informed the debtor(s) about eligibility to proceed under Chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of title 11, United States Code, and have explained the relief available under each chapter for which the person is eligible. I also certify that I have delivered to the debtor(s) the notice required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b) and, in a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies, certify that I have no knowledge after an inquiry that the information in the schedules filed with the petition is incorrect.

X

/s/ Vaughn White

Signature of Attorney for Debtor

Date **06/08/2024**

MM / DD / YYYY

Vaughn White

Printed name

VW LAW LLC

Firm name

1755 Park St Suite 200

Number Street

Naperville

City

IL

State

60563

ZIP Code

Contact phone **(312) 888-0131**

Email address **vaughn@vaughnwhite.com**

6198291

Bar number

IL

State

Debtor 1 Maria Dejesus Lopez Case number (if known) _____
 First Name Middle Name Last Name

Part 6: Answer These Questions for Reporting Purposes

16. What kind of debts do you have?
- 16a. Are your debts primarily consumer debts? *Consumer debts* are defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(8) as "incurred by an individual primarily for a personal, family, or household purpose."
- ☐ No. Go to line 16b.
☒ Yes. Go to line 17.
- 16b. Are your debts primarily business debts? *Business debts* are debts that you incurred to obtain money for a business or investment or through the operation of the business or investment.
- ☐ No. Go to line 16c.
☐ Yes. Go to line 17.
- 16c. State the type of debts you owe that are not consumer debts or business debts.

17. Are you filing under Chapter 7?
- ☒ No. I am not filing under Chapter 7. Go to line 18.
☐ Yes. I am filing under Chapter 7. Do you estimate that after any exempt property is excluded and administrative expenses are paid that funds will be available to distribute to unsecured creditors?
- ☐ No
☐ Yes
18. How many creditors do you estimate that you owe?
- ☒ 1-49 ☐ 1,000-5,000 ☐ 25,001-50,000 ☐ 50,000-100,000 ☐ More than 100,000
☐ 50-99 ☐ 5,001-10,000
☐ 100-199 ☐ 10,001-25,000
☐ 200-999
19. How much do you estimate your assets to be worth?
- ☒ \$0-\$50,000 ☐ \$1,000,001-\$10 million ☐ \$500,000,001-\$1 billion
☐ \$50,001-\$100,000 ☐ \$10,000,001-\$50 million ☐ \$1,000,000,001-\$10 billion
☐ \$100,001-\$500,000 ☐ \$50,000,001-\$100 million ☐ \$10,000,000,001-\$50 billion
☐ \$500,001-\$1 million ☐ \$100,000,001-\$500 million ☐ More than \$50 billion
20. How much do you estimate your liabilities to be?
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☐ \$50,001-\$100,000 ☐ \$10,000,001-\$50 million ☐ \$1,000,000,001-\$10 billion
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☐ \$500,001-\$1 million ☐ \$100,000,001-\$500 million ☐ More than \$50 billion

Part 7: Sign Below

For you

I have examined this petition, and I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided is true and correct.

If I have chosen to file under Chapter 7, I am aware that I may proceed, if eligible, under Chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of title 11, United States Code. I understand the relief available under each chapter, and I choose to proceed under Chapter 7.

If no attorney represents me and I did not pay or agree to pay someone who is not an attorney to help me fill out this document, I have obtained and read the notice required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b).

I request relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.

I understand making a false statement, concealing property, or obtaining money or property by fraud in connection with a bankruptcy case can result in fines up to \$250,000, or imprisonment for up to 20 years, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 1341, 1519, and 3571.

X Maria de Jesus Lopez

Maria Dejesus Lopez, Debtor 1

Executed on 6-8-2024

MM/ DD/ YYYY

B2030 (Form 2030) (12/15)

United States Bankruptcy Court
Northern District of Illinois

In re Lopez, Maria Dejesus

Case No. _____

Debtor

Chapter 13

DISCLOSURE OF COMPENSATION OF ATTORNEY FOR DEBTOR

1. Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 329(a) and Fed. Bankr. P. 2016(b), I certify that I am the attorney for the above named debtor(s) and that compensation paid to me within one year before the filing of the petition in bankruptcy, or agreed to be paid to me, for services rendered or to be rendered on behalf of the debtor(s) in contemplation of or in connection with the bankruptcy case is as follows:

☒ **FLAT FEE**

For legal services, I have agreed to accept **\$4,562.00**

Prior to the filing of this statement I have received **\$1,000.00**

Balance Due **\$3,562.00**

☐ **RETAINER**

For legal services, I have agreed to accept and received a retainer of

The undersigned shall bill against the retainer at an hourly rate of

[Or attach firm hourly rate schedule.] Debtor(s) have agreed to pay all Court approved fees and expenses exceeding the amount of the retainer.

2. **\$0.00** of the filing fee has been paid.

3. The source of the compensation paid to me was:

☐ Debtor ☒ Other (specify) Jose Lopez Drbtor's son

4. The source of compensation to be paid to me is:

☒ Debtor ☐ Other (specify)

5. ☒ I have not agreed to share the above-disclosed compensation with any other person unless they are members and associates of my law firm.

☐ I have agreed to share the above-disclosed compensation with a other person or persons who are not members or associates of my law firm. A copy of the agreement, together with a list of the names of the people sharing in the compensation, is attached.

6. In return for the above-disclosed fee, I have agreed to render legal service for all aspects of the bankruptcy case, including:

- a. Analysis of the debtor' s financial situation, and rendering advice to the debtor in determining whether to file a petition in bankruptcy;

B2030 (Form 2030) (12/15)

- b. Preparation and filing of any petition, schedules, statements of affairs and plan which may be required;
 - c. Representation of the debtor at the meeting of creditors and confirmation hearing, and any adjourned hearings thereof;
7. By agreement with the debtor(s), the above-disclosed fee does not include the following services:

CERTIFICATION	
I certify that the foregoing is a complete statement of any agreement or arrangement for payment to me for representation of the debtor(s) in this bankruptcy proceeding.	
<u>06/08/2024</u> <i>Date</i>	<u>/s/ Vaughn White</u> Vaughn White <i>Signature of Attorney</i> <div style="text-align: right; padding-right: 20px;">Bar Number: 6198291 VW LAW LLC 1755 Park St Suite 200 Naperville, IL 60563 Phone: (312) 888-0131</div> <div style="text-align: right;"><u>VW LAW LLC</u> <i>Name of law firm</i></div>

Form 13-8

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**COURT-APPROVED RETENTION AGREEMENT
(for cases filed on or after March 15, 2021)**

This agreement describes the rights and duties of debtors and their lawyers in Chapter 13 bankruptcy cases in the Northern District of Illinois. The debtor and lawyer must enter into this agreement for the lawyer to receive a flat fee of \$ 4,500.00 as compensation in the case. By signing this agreement, the debtor and lawyer agree to do everything this agreement requires.

DO NOT sign this agreement unless you have read it and understand it.

This agreement replaces any conflicting agreement between the debtor and the lawyer. If any provision of another agreement conflicts with this agreement, the lawyer will not be awarded a flat fee as compensation in the case.

The lawyer must perform all tasks reasonably necessary for the bankruptcy case. Performance of those tasks is a condition of receiving the flat fee. The lawyer may not charge any other fees for representing the debtor in the case. The sole exception, explained below, is representation of the debtor in certain lawsuits in the bankruptcy case known as adversary proceedings.

1. Duties of the Debtor and the Lawyer

A. Counseling Before Filing a Bankruptcy Case

Before a bankruptcy case is filed, the debtor must provide financial and other information to the lawyer. The lawyer must evaluate the information and advise the debtor whether filing a bankruptcy case is appropriate, and if so, under which chapter of the Bankruptcy Code. The lawyer must explain the advantages and disadvantages of filing a bankruptcy case.

If filing a chapter 13 bankruptcy case is appropriate, the lawyer must explain how and when attorneys' fees will be paid.

B. Documents for the Case

The lawyer or a member of the lawyer's staff must prepare all the documents required to be filed in the bankruptcy case. The debtor must provide all information the lawyer or a member of the lawyer's staff requests to prepare the documents. Failure to provide requested information will make it difficult or impossible for the lawyer to file the case or to represent the debtor once the case is filed. The lawyer must review each document with the debtor, who must approve and sign the documents.

C. Representation of the Debtor throughout the Case

The lawyer must represent the debtor at the § 341 meeting of creditors and in all court hearings. The lawyer must prepare and file all motions necessary for the case and must represent the debtor on all other motions that affect the debtor's interests.

The lawyer must examine all claims creditors file in the case and must object to claims if appropriate.

The lawyer must be available to answer the debtor's questions about the case and must answer them in a timely manner.

The debtor must notify the lawyer of any significant change in the debtor's circumstances, such as the loss of a job or the proposed purchase or sale of a home or car. The debtor must also notify the lawyer of any change in the debtor's address, phone number, or email address.

If the debtor and the lawyer decide that the case should be converted to a case under chapter 7, the lawyer must file the notice of conversion.

The lawyer must file and represent the debtor in adversary proceedings for turnover of property of the bankruptcy estate.

2. Attorneys' Fees and Expenses

A. Flat Fee for Attorneys' Fees

The lawyer may charge a flat fee for all services required in this agreement. The flat fee may not exceed the amount permitted by the court when the case is filed.

The flat fee does not cover:

- representing the debtor in adversary proceedings other than for turnover of estate property
- representing the debtor in the chapter 7 case, if the case is converted to chapter 7
- representing the debtor in appeals

The debtor and the lawyer can negotiate an additional fee for representation in adversary proceedings not included in the flat fee and for representation in a chapter 7 case if the case is converted.

B. Expenses

The lawyer may also charge the debtor for certain actual, necessary expenses incurred in representing the debtor as permitted in this paragraph. These expenses are in addition to the flat attorney's fees. The court must approve all expenses.

The lawyer may charge the debtor for the following expenses:

- Court filing fees

- Fees charged by a credit reporting agency for a credit report
- Copying and postage charges as follows:
 1. A flat fee not to exceed \$25 for all copying and postage charges in the case. The copying and postage charges need not be itemized

or

 2. The actual amount of postage and copying costs (no more than \$0.10 per page) incurred in the case. The itemization must state (a) the number of copies and the dates when the copies were made, and (2) the dates and amounts of postage charges incurred.
- Fees charged by the IRS or other taxing authorities to obtain tax returns
- Other actual, necessary expenses, but only if the lawyer submits to the court an itemization of the expenses with supporting copies of invoices or other documents

The lawyer may not charge the debtor for an outside service that serves documents filed in the bankruptcy case.

C. Advance Payment to the Lawyer

The lawyer and the debtor must agree on whether the debtor will pay any or all of the attorneys' fee owed for the case before it is filed.

If the debtor makes a payment before the case is filed, the payment will be treated as an advance payment retainer.

The lawyer must explain to the debtor how an advance payment retainer is treated. The lawyer will not hold the retainer in a client trust account and it will become property of the lawyer upon payment. The special purpose of the advance payment retainer is that it permits the lawyer to be paid for essential work that must be performed before the court can consider the lawyer's fee application. The lawyer is not required to keep detailed time records because this is a flat fee agreement. The lawyer need not refund any portion of the advance payment if work is not performed, unless the court orders the lawyer to do so.

D. Payment of the Balance during the Case

Attorneys' fees not paid before the case is filed will be paid to the lawyer by the trustee out of the debtor's plan payments. The debtor may not pay the lawyer directly after the case is filed.

The debtor's Chapter 13 plan may not provide for current monthly payments to secured creditors that are other than in equal amounts. The lawyer may not file a Chapter 13 plan for the debtor in which payments to a secured creditor are set at an amount that accelerates payments to the lawyer.

E. Additional Fees in Extraordinary Circumstances

In extraordinary circumstances, the lawyer may apply to the court for additional compensation. The application must be accompanied by an itemization of the services rendered.

3. Coverage Counsel

A. Disclosure of the Practice

If the debtor's lawyer has a practice of using other lawyers not employed at the same firm to perform any of the lawyer's obligations under this agreement, he must disclose that practice to the debtor before the debtor signs the agreement.

B. Identifying Coverage Counsel

If the debtor's lawyer asks another lawyer not employed at the same firm to represent the debtor at the meeting of creditors or at any court appearance, the debtor's lawyer must notify the debtor in advance and must provide the name of the lawyer who will represent the debtor.

C. Providing Information to Coverage Counsel

If the debtor has information to give the other lawyer for the meeting of creditors or for a court appearance, the debtor must give that information to the debtor's lawyer. The debtor's lawyer must then promptly forward the information to the lawyer representing the debtor at the meeting or in court.

4. Dismissal or Conversion of the Case

If the bankruptcy case is dismissed or converted to another chapter before all plan payments have been made, the attorneys' fees paid to the lawyer are not refundable, unless the court orders the fees refunded.

If the bankruptcy case is dismissed after the court has granted the lawyer's application for compensation, the lawyer will not enforce the order granting the application against the debtor for any unpaid fees or expenses.

5. Termination of this Agreement

The debtor may terminate this agreement at any time. By terminating the agreement, the debtor ends the lawyer's representation. If the lawyer has not been paid in full when the agreement is terminated, the court may reduce the balance of attorneys' fees owed based on the services the lawyer provided before termination.

If the debtor terminates this agreement and hires another lawyer, the court may apportion the flat fee between the lawyers.

The lawyer may terminate this agreement only with court approval.

6. Amount of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses

A. Attorneys' Fees:

The debtor agrees to pay the lawyer a flat fee of \$ 4,500.00 for the lawyer's services in the chapter 13 case.

B. Expenses:

The estimated expenses for the case are: \$ 62.00

These expenses are for:

Postage and copying \$ 25.00

Credit Report \$ 37.00

\$ _____

\$ _____

C. Total Fees and Estimated Expenses: \$ 4,562.00

Advance payment by debtor: \$ 1000.00

Balance owed by debtor: \$ 3562.00

Maria D. Lopez
Debtor

Vaughn White
Lawyer

Date: _____

Debtor 2/Spouse (if any)

Date: _____

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
CHICAGO DIVISION (EASTERN)

IN RE: **Lopez, Maria Dejesus**

CASE NO

CHAPTER **13**

VERIFICATION OF CREDITOR MATRIX

The above named Debtor hereby verifies that the attached list of creditors is true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge.

Date **06/08/2024**

Signature **/s/ Maria Dejesus Lopez**
Maria Dejesus Lopez, Debtor

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
CHICAGO DIVISION (EASTERN)

IN RE: Lopez, Maria Dejesus

CASE NO

CHAPTER 13

VERIFICATION OF CREDITOR MATRIX

The above named Debtor hereby verifies that the attached list of creditors is true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge.

Date 6-8-2024 Signature Maria de Jesus Lopez
Maria Dejesus Lopez, Debtor

Bank of America
Attn: Bankruptcy 4909 Savarese Circle
Tampa, FL 33634

Chase Card Services
Attn: Bankruptcy P.O. 15298
Wilmington, DE 19850

Diaz, Anselmo & Associates
LLC
1771 West Diehl Rd 120
Naperville, IL 60563

Lvnv Funding/Resurgent
Capital
Attn: Bankruptcy
PO Box 10497
Greenville, SC 29603

One Main Financial
Attn: Bankruptcy
PO Box 3251
Evansville, IN 47731

Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing
75 Beattie Pl 300
Greenville, SC 29601

VW LAW LLC
1755 Park St Suite 200
Naperville, IL 60563